

Benton County Election Commission

1204 SW 14th Street, Suite 6, P.O. Box 1481, Bentonville, AR 72712

Russell J. Anzalone
Chairman

M. W. Sevak
Member



John M. Brown, Jr.
Secretary

Kim Dennison
Coordinator

Office (479) 271-1049 - Fax (479) 271-5749

kimberly.dennison@bentoncountyar.gov, sharon.rose@bentoncountyar.gov, serena.green@bentoncountyar.gov

MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

March 7, 2016

Election Commission members present: Chairman Russell Anzalone, John M. Brown, Jr., and Mike Sevak

Others present: Election Coordinator Kim Dennison, Sharon Rose, Serena Green, and Voter/Elections Administrator Dana Caler

Media: Tom Sissom, Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Chairman Anzalone called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed everyone.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

- A. Discussion of Provisional Ballots from the Preferential Primary & Nonpartisan General Election held on March 1, 2016: Chairman Anzalone, John M. Brown, Jr., and Mike Sevak discussed the Provisional Ballots cast in the Preferential Primary & Nonpartisan General Election held on March 1, 2016 with nine (9) approved ballots and twenty (20) rejected ballots. Chairman Anzalone asked Sharon Rose to send letters to the twenty (20) voters advising them that their ballot was not counted and the reason why.
- B. Order to Appoint Russell J. Anzalone, John M. Brown, Jr., and Mike Sevak as Election Officials to Process, Count, and Canvass Absentee Ballots for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016: Chairman Anzalone made a motion to appoint Commissioners Russell J. Anzalone, John M. Brown, Jr., and Mike Sevak to Process, Count, and Canvass Absentee Ballots for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held on March 22, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.

- C. Order to Appoint Election Officials for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016: Chairman Anzalone stated that there would be twenty-four (24) Vote Centers opened for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016. Chairman Anzalone made a motion to accept the Election Officials for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held on March 22, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.
- D. Order to Establish Early Voting Locations for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016: Chairman Anzalone stated that the County Clerk's Offices in Bentonville, Rogers, and Siloam Springs would be the only three (3) early voting locations opened for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016. Chairman Anzalone stated that early voting would be held March 15, 2016 and ending Monday March 21, 2016 from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Chairman Anzalone stated that paper ballots would be available during early voting at these three (3) locations; he added that on Election Day, paper ballots would only be available at the County Clerk's Office in Bentonville. Commissioner Anzalone made a motion to accept the three (3) County Clerk's Offices as early voting locations for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.
- E. Approval of Ballot for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016: Commissioners Anzalone, Brown, and Sevak reviewed and approved the paper ballot for the Republican Primary Run-Off Election to be held March 22, 2016.
- F. Review of Current Vote Centers: Chairman Anzalone stated in review of the current vote centers, he would like for the commission to consider several issues to include: (1) soliciting feedback from the vote center sheriffs and other poll workers on the vote centers operations; (2) to consider if the county has enough electronic poll books to keep the check-in process flowing smoothly; (3) to add poll workers to the county clerk's office to handle voters requesting a paper ballot; and (4) how the commission could assist in reducing the number of voters who make address changes on election day. Voter/Elections Administrator Dana Caler stated that the county clerk's office handled approximately 1,300 address changes on election day. Election Coordinator Kim Dennison stated that while the electronic poll books worked well, the county does not have the additional poll books to add to election day vote centers unless the county can obtain more electronic voting machines.

Other Business:

None

Public Comments:

None

Announcements:

None

Adjournment:

Commissioner Anzalone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Brown, Jr., Secretary
Prepared by Sharon Rose
Benton County Election Commission